

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A communication system for communication between a vehicle and a service station, ~~the communication system~~ comprising:
 - ~~a local area network (LAN);~~
 - a vehicle having a diagnostic system that can be accessed to perform a diagnosis of the vehicle, a transceiver operable on ~~the~~ a local area network (LAN), and a memory for storing diagnosis information concerning a performed diagnosis on the vehicle; and
 - a local communication device for the vehicle service station, the local communication device operable on the LAN and operable to access the diagnostic system and to download the diagnosis information from the vehicle.
2. (original) The communication system of claim 1, wherein the LAN is a wireless LAN and the local communication device is to query for the vehicle transceiver within a coverage area of the LAN.
3. (original) The communication system of claim 1, wherein the LAN is a wireless LAN and the communication system operates such that the local communication device synchronizes service records with the vehicle.
4. (currently amended) The communication system of claim 1, wherein the local communication device queries ~~a~~ the vehicle for identification information and provides the identification information for correlation with ownership information in a local database.

5. (original) The communication system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle includes a transceiver operable on a wide area network (WAN) of a network service provider and the local communication device is operable on the WAN, and wherein the local communication device can direct the vehicle diagnostic system, over the WAN, to perform vehicle diagnostics and to download results of the diagnostics back to the local communication device over the WAN.
6. (original) The communication system of claim 5, wherein the local communication device is operable to download a particular diagnostic test application over the WAN for the vehicle diagnostic system to execute.
7. (original) The communication system of claim 5, wherein the local communication device is operable to send information regarding service for the vehicle to a user interface of the vehicle through the LAN and LAN transceiver.
8. (original) The communication system of claim 7, wherein the user interface is operable to allow approval of service to the local communication device through the LAN transceiver and LAN.
9. (original) The communication system of claim 1, wherein the memory of the vehicle is operable to store service record data of the vehicle and is used to download the service record data from the vehicle memory to the local communication device.
10. (original) The communication system of claim 1, wherein, when any vehicle information is to be downloaded, a message indicating the same can be transmitted to a user interface of the vehicle such that a driver of the vehicle can disallow the download if desired.

11. (currently amended) A communication system for communication between a vehicle and a service station, ~~the communication system~~ comprising:

~~a wireless local area network (LAN);~~

a vehicle having a diagnostic system, a local area network (LAN) transceiver operable on ~~the local area network~~ a LAN, a wide area network (WAN) transceiver operable on a ~~wide area network (WAN)~~ of a network service provider, and a memory for storing information on the vehicle; and
a local communication device for the vehicle service station, the local communication device operable on the LAN ~~and operable to query for vehicle transceivers within a coverage area of the LAN and to download the information from the vehicle~~, the service station further comprising a WAN transceiver for communicating with the vehicle WAN transceiver on the WAN.

12. (original) The communication system of claim 11, wherein the information contains at least one of a vehicle identification number and an odometer reading, and wherein the local communication device provides the information for correlation with ownership information in a local database.

13. (currently amended) The communication system of claim 11, ~~wherein the local communication device is operable on the WAN, and~~ wherein the local communication device can direct the vehicle diagnostic system, over the WAN, to perform vehicle diagnostics and to download results of the diagnostics back to the local communication device over the WAN.

14. (original) The communication system of claim 11, wherein the local communication device is operable to send information regarding service of the vehicle to a user interface of the vehicle through the LAN and LAN transceiver, and to allow approval of service to the local communication device through the user interface, LAN transceiver and LAN.

15. (original) The communication system of claim 11, wherein the memory of the vehicle is operable to store service record data of the vehicle and is used to download the service record data from the vehicle memory to the local communication device.

16. (original) The communication system of claim 11, wherein the local communication device and the user interface are operable to provide an interactive session with a driver of the vehicle to assist in determining required service.

17. (currently amended) A method for communication between a service station and a vehicle with a transceiver operable on a local area network, a diagnostic system, and having a memory for storing information on the vehicle, the method comprising the steps of:

querying for a vehicle local area network transceiver within a coverage area of a local area network;

querying the diagnosis system of the vehicle from the service station to perform a diagnosis on the vehicle resulting in diagnosis information;

downloading vehicle identification information and the diagnosis information from the memory ~~over the local area network~~; and

determining service required for the vehicle using the identification information and/or the diagnosis information.

18. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of correlating the identification information with ownership information in a local database.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the vehicle includes a transceiver operable over a wide area network, and wherein the querying the diagnosis system step and the downloading step occur over a wide area network ~~determining step includes the substeps of:~~

~~directing the vehicle diagnostic system, over a wide area network, to perform vehicle diagnostics; and~~
~~downloading the results of the diagnostics over the wide area network.~~

20. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the steps of:
sending information regarding service of the vehicle to the vehicle through the local area network; and
allowing approval of service from the vehicle through the local area network.

21. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the steps of:
storing service record data of the vehicle; and
downloading the service record data from the vehicle memory.

22. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein the determining step includes an interactive session with a driver of the vehicle to assist in determining the service required.

23. (new) A method for communication between a service station and a vehicle each capable of communicating via a local area network (LAN) and a wide area network (WAN), comprising:

detecting whether the vehicle is within the coverage area of LAN defined by the service station;

if the vehicle is within the LAN, receiving vehicle identification information from the vehicle at the service station over the LAN;

in response to receiving the vehicle identification information, directing the vehicle from the service station over the WAN to perform a diagnostic on the vehicle;

receiving the results of the diagnostic at the service station over the WAN.

24. (new) The method of claim 23, further comprising, after receiving the results of the diagnostic, determining service required for the vehicle.

25. (new) The method of claim 24, wherein the determining step includes an interactive session with a driver of the vehicle to assist in determining the service required.

26. (new) The method of claim 24, further comprising:
sending the determined service required for the vehicle from the service station
to the vehicle through the local area network; and
allowing approval of service from the vehicle through the local area network.

27. (new) The method of claim 23, further comprising:
storing service record data of the vehicle; and
downloading the service record data from the vehicle memory.

28. (new) The method of claim 23, wherein the vehicle identification information is correlated with vehicle ownership information in a local database accessible from the service station.